

Patent Application No. 09/670,489

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 12, line 17 as follows:

The structure part 202 obtained by dividing the XML document 201 is encoded by the encoder 11, and for this encoding, the grammar rule 12 is employed. Since in this embodiment the XML document 201 is the target, the grammar rule 12 is regulated by the DTD. This encoding processing will be described in detail later. The obtained encoded data string 203 and the contents 204 are transmitted to the compressor 13.

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